



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,337	02/19/2004	Hector F. DeLuca	1256-00931	5401
26753	7590	06/09/2005	EXAMINER	
ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP 100 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE, SUITE 1100 MILWAUKEE, WI 53202			QAZI, SABIHA NAIM	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1616	

DATE MAILED: 06/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/782,337

Applicant(s)

DELUCA ET AL.

Examiner

Sabiha Qazi

Art Unit

1616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 1616

Final Rejection

Acknowledgement is made of the response filed on 1/24/2005. Claims 1-67 are pending. No claim is allowed.

Response to Remarks

The arguments were fully considered, but are not found persuasive.

Obviousness-type double rejection, the 102(e) rejection, and the 103(a) rejection

The Applicants argue that there is a difference between the prior art's "maintain or increase bone mass" and the instant invention's "increase in strength of a bone."

The Examiner points the Applicants to Page 4, paragraph [0009], of the Specification, which states, "...the result is a decrease in bone mass and *consequent* (emphasis added) decrease in bone strength." It appears that the Applicants make no difference between the two in the Specification, but make a difference in the arguments.

That is the basis of the arguments made by the Applicants---that there is a difference between bone strength and bone mass---for the obviousness-type double rejection, the 102(e) rejection, and the 103(a) rejection.

The 112 rejection

The 112 rejection stands because the claims are broad. The specification, and the arguments, cite the data in Tables 1 and 2, both which clearly show that 2MD is effective in increasing bone mass and bone strength of normal female rats. The claims claim the increase of bone mass and bone strength in an astronaut, a pig, an athlete, a laying hen, a goose, a duck, a

Art Unit: 1616

pheasant, a grouse, a chicken, a turkey, an ostrich, a quail, etc. While the claims may be enabling for rats, the claims are not enabling for all of these different species.

Double Patenting

A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefor ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer cannot overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 1-67 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 17-29 of DELUCA et al. (US Patent No. 5843928). Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because US '928 claims 17-29 are drawn to a method of treating metabolic bone disease where it is desired to maintain or increase bone mass by 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S) vitamin D compounds.

Art Unit: 1616

Instant claims differ from the reference in claiming a method of “prophylaxis of a disease characterized by a need to increase the strength of a bone” as well as a method of prophylaxis of fractures, osteoporosis, increasing eggshell strength of a laying hen, etc.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to 2MD for the increase of strength of a bone, wherever it may be needed, because the prior art is drawn to the treatment of metabolic bone disease through the increase of strength of a bone.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by DELUCA et al. (US Patent No. 5843928). US '928 claims 17-29 are drawn to a method of treating metabolic

Art Unit: 1616

bone disease where it is desired to maintain or increase bone mass by 2-methylene-19-nor-20(S) vitamin D compounds.

Instant claims differ from the reference in claiming a method of “prophylaxis of a disease characterized by a need to increase the strength of a bone” as well as a method of prophylaxis of fractures, osteoporosis, increasing eggshell strength of a laying hen, etc.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to 2MD for the increase of strength of a bone, wherever it may be needed, because the prior art is drawn to the treatment of metabolic bone disease through the increase of strength of a bone. The treatment is intended for the same population.

The applied reference has a common inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another,” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

See Exparte Novitski, 26 USPQ 2d 1389 (January 22, 1993) which is decision of USPTO Board of Appeals, holding to be inherent and not patentable, inoculating healthy plants with a known plant inoculant's, employed in the prior art to protect them against phytopathogenic fungi. Novitski discovered that the known plant inoculants would also protect them against root dwelling plant pathogenic nematodes, a discovery neither known nor appreciated by the prior art. The step of inoculating plants with the same inoculants necessarily and inherently protects them against nematodes.

Art Unit: 1616

See Atlas Powder versus Ireco, 51 USPQ 2d 1943, (Fed. Cir. 1999), holds the failure of those skilled in the art to contemporaneously recognize an inherent property, function, or ingredient of a prior art reference does not preclude a finding of anticipation. Whether or not an element is inherent in the prior art is a fact question. Inherency is not necessarily conterminous with knowledge of those of ordinary skill in the art, who may not recognize the inherent characteristics or functioning of the prior art. However the discovery of a previously unappreciated property of a prior art composition does not render the old composition new to the discoverer.

The fact that prior art taught away from the claim is, in fact, only a showing that prior art did not recognize the inherent function. This lack of contemporary understanding did not defeat the showing of inherency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Factors to be considered in determining whether a disclosure meets the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, have been described in In re Colianni, 195 USPQ 150, 153 (CCPA 1977), have been clarified by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in Ex parte Forman, 230 USPQ 546 (BPAI 1986), and are summarized in In re Wands (858 F2d 731, 737, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed Cir. 1988)). Among these factors are: (1) the nature of the invention; (2) the state of the prior art; (3) the relative skill of those in the art; (4) the predictability or unpredictability of the art; (5) the breadth of the claims; (6) the amount of direction or guidance presented; (7) the presence or absence of working examples; and (8) the quantity of experimentation necessary.

Art Unit: 1616

When the above factors are weighed, it is the examiner's position that one skilled in the art could not practice the invention without undue experimentation.

(1) The nature of the invention: The claims are drawn to the treatment of metabolic bone disease through the increase of strength of a bone.

(2) The predictability or unpredictability of the art: There is lack of predictability in the in the pharmaceutical art.

(3) The amount of direction or guidance presented: There is no guidance in the disclosure on how to use the invention successfully for the increase in bone strength in a variety of different ways.

In *re Dreshfield*, 110 F.2d 235, 45 USPQ 36 (CCPA 1940), gives this general rule: "It is well settled that in cases involving chemicals and chemical compounds, which differ radically in their properties it must appear in an applicant's specification either by the enumeration of a sufficient number of the members of a group or by other appropriate language, that the chemicals or chemical combinations included in the claims are capable of accomplishing the desired result."

The courts have further interpreted undue experimentation as requiring "ingenuity beyond that to be expected of one of ordinary skill in the art" (*Fields v. Conover*, 170 USPQ 276 (CCPA 1971)) or requiring an extended period of experimentation in the absence of sufficient direction or guidance (*In re Colianni*, 195 USPQ 150 (CCPA 1977)). Additionally, the courts

Art Unit: 1616

have determined that "... where a statement is, on its face, contrary to generally accepted scientific principles", a rejection for failure to teach how to make and/or use is proper (In re Marzocchi, 169 USPQ 367 (CCPA 1971)).

(5) The presence or absence of working examples: There are no working examples and/or data to support the claimed invention. The disclosure does not contain any working examples. There are some assays and some techniques in the specification, but they are not useful in the treatment of the said diseases or disorders as claimed. How can one prevent a disease "characterized by a need to increase the strength of a bone..." and the numerous diseases listed in the claims?

There is no support for the prevention/prophylaxis of the diseases as claimed.

A disclosure should contain representative examples, which provide reasonable assurance to one skilled in the art that the compounds fall within the scope of a claim will possess the alleged activity. See In re Riat et al. (CCPA 1964) 327 F2d 685, 140 USPQ 471; In re Barr et al. (CCPA 1971) 444 F 2d 349, 151 USPQ 724.

(6) The quantity of experimentation necessary: Since there are no working examples, no data, and no guidance presented in the disclosure, one skilled in the art at the time of invention would have to go through undue experimentation to make and use the presently claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

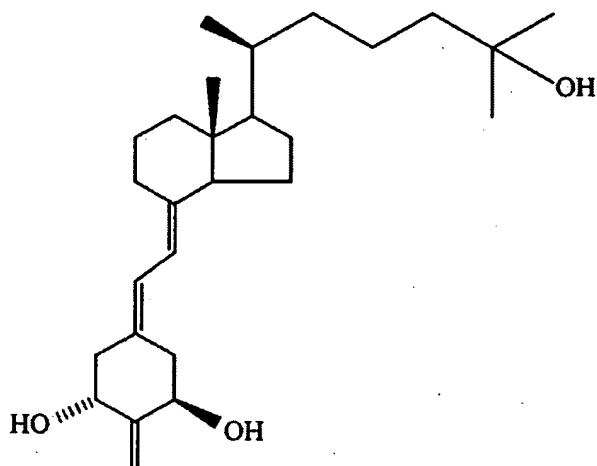
1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DELUCA et al. (US Patent No. 5843928), which is drawn to a metabolic bone disease where it is desired to

Art Unit: 1616

maintain or increase bone mass, for the reasons cited above. See the entire document, especially examples, and claims 17-29.



Compound 2MD

A reference is good not only for what it teaches by direct anticipation but also for what one of ordinary skill might reasonably infer from the teachings. *In re opprecht* 12 USPQ 2d 1235, 1236 (Fed Cir. 1989); *In re Bode* 193 USPQ 12 (CCPA 1976). A reference is not limited to working examples. *In re Fracalossi* 215 USPQ 569 (CCPA 1982).

Accordingly, the burden of proof is upon applicants to show that instantly claimed subject matter is different and unobvious over those taught by prior art. See *In re Brown*, 173 USPQ 685, 688; *In re Best*, 195 USPQ 430 and *In re Marosi*, 218 USPQ 289, 293.

Art Unit: 1616

In the light of the forgoing discussion, the Examiner's ultimate legal conclusion is that the subject matter defined by the instant claims would have been obvious within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sabiha Qazi whose telephone number is (571) 272-0622. The examiner can normally be reached on any business day.

Art Unit: 1616

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz can be reached on (571) 272-0887. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SABIHA QAZI, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Sunday, June 5, 2005